



07-12-01

Express Mail No. ET160381264US 03C0  
Attorney Docket No.: AM-2772.P1

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Ajay Kumar et al.

§ GROUP ART UNIT: Unknown

SERIAL NO.: 09/882,323

§ EXAMINER: Unknown

FILED: June 13, 2001

§

FOR: METHOD FOR ETCHING SILICON NITRIDE

§

§ Attorney Docket No.:

§ AM-2772.P1

#4

Date: July 11, 2001

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants are submitting the subject Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(1). This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three (3) months of the filing date of the subject application.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ET160381264US in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Box DD, Washington, DC 20231.

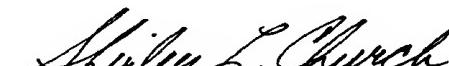
Date: July 11, 2001

*Shirley L. Church*  
Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

Applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(1). However, in the event that any additional fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1512 of Shirley L. Church, Sunnyvale, California, in the amount of such fee.

This transmittal letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley L. Church  
Registration No. 31,858  
Attorney for Applicants

Correspondence Address:  
Patent Counsel  
Applied Materials, Inc.  
P.O. Box 450-A  
Santa Clara, California 95052



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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(1)**

**Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231**

Sir:

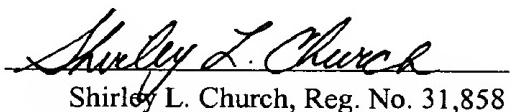
In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(1), applicants hereby request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three (3) months of the filing date of the subject application or before an Office Action on the merits. Applicants are providing herewith a copy of each document cited on the attached Form PTO-1449.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ET160381264US in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Box DD, Washington, DC 20231.

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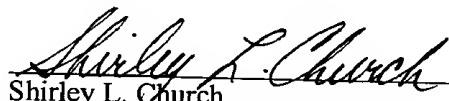
  
Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

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The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 is not an admission that the art cited is "prior art" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley L. Church  
Registration No. 31,858  
Attorney for Applicants  
(408) 245-5109

Correspondence Address:  
Patent Counsel  
Applied Materials, Inc.  
P.O. Box 450-A  
Santa Clara, California 95052



~~FORM PTO-1  
(Equivalent)~~

**U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office**

**U.S. Application Serial No.**  
**09/882,323**

Atty. Docket No.  
AM-2772.P1

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Ajay Kumar et al.  
Applicants

(Use several sheets if necessary)

June 13, 2001  
Filing Date

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**Group**

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

<u>Examiner Initial</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Filing Date If Appropriate</u>
	Re. 30,505	02/03/81	Jacob	156	643	
	4,615,764*	10/07/86	Bobbio et al.	156	643	
	4,793,897	12/27/88	Dunfield et al.	156	643	
	5,211,790	05/18/93	Tatsumi	156	662	
	5,362,361	11/08/94	Tatsumi	156	662	
	5,397,431	03/14/95	Kadomura	156	662	
	5,721,090*	02/24/98	Okamoto et al.	430	313	
	5,753,418	05/19/98	Tsai et al.	430	313	
	5,779,926*	07/14/98	Ma et al.	216	67	
	5,817,579	10/06/98	Ko et al.	438	740	
	5,910,392*	06/08/99	Nozaki et al.	430	270.1	
	5,911,887*	06/15/99	Smith et al.	216	72	

**Examiner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Considered** \_\_\_\_\_

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\* Cited by the Examiner in the parent application.



#### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner Initial</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Filing Date If Appropriate</u>
—	6,080,678	06/27/00	Yim	438	725	
—	6,110,826*	08/29/00	Lou et al.	438	674	
—	6,132,631*	10/17/00	Nallan et al.	216	16	

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner Initial</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Translation If Appropriate</u>
—	WO 9616437	05/30/96	Chen	H01L	21/311	

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

- W. R. Runyan and K. E. Bean, "Semiconductor integrated circuit processing technology," Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, pp. 268 - 280 (1990).
- U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/907,448, of Nallan et al.

Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ Date Considered \_\_\_\_\_

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